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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

SOURCE: 25X1X

1. The village of Benkovski, located about seven kilometers northwest of Plovdiv, has a medical station and a maternity hospital serving the four villages of the Benkovski rayon which have a total of approximately 10,000 inhabitants. The medical staff consists of one physician, one dental surgeon, one midwife, and two hygienists (girls who have taken a 3-months course and who are assigned general duties). The maternity hospital, with 10 beds, is in a 1-story building containing six rooms.

2. The local dispensary is equipped with most of the common drugs, except antibiotics and preparations containing poison. Drugs issued by the local dispensary must be paid for by the customer. The physician acts as pharmacist. Antibiotics may be obtained at any pharmacy in Plovdiv with the local doctor's prescription. Penicillin of Soviet, Polish, or Czech origin is available at the medical stations of larger villages. Streptomycin is available only at special institutions, where a number of physicians check every prescription and decide upon the urgency of the case. Aureomycin is available only at hospitals.

3. The physician receives patients daily at the Benkovski medical station, and once a month visits the other three villages for two days each, where he receives patients at the local medical points. Each of the four villages has a school with an average of 200 pupils. These students are all examined by the local physician three times a year after vacations. Examination of the children in one school lasts one day. The physician also inspects sanitary conditions at the schools once a month.

4. The monthly salary of the physician is 800 leva, of the midwife 600 leva, and of a hygienist 400 leva. The physician earns an additional 200 to 400 leva acting as pharmacist. He may also earn more by receiving patients after working hours.

5. A death certificate made out by the local doctor is given to the clerk at the local council, who also receives the personal documents of the deceased from the relatives. The documents and certificate are forwarded to Plovdiv.

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6. During the last two years there have been no cases of poliomyelitis or typhoid, and one case of cancer in the rayon. In 1952, there were two cases of malaria, and in 1953 there were none. At present about 10 people are being treated with antimalaria drugs (chinin, Plasmochin, or Atebrine), which are supplied by the local dispensary free of charge. There are two acute cases of tuberculosis in Plovdiv. Examinations for cancer are not carried out in the rayon, mainly becuase of the lack of understanding and cooperation on the part of the villagers.

7. The following personalities at the Plovdiv Medical Academy, all of whom have passed middle age, received their professional education outside Bulgaria, and do not belong to the Party,

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   a. Yanev (fnu), professor in microbiology and formerly rector of the Academy;

   b. B. Zhurukov, professor, holds the Chair for therapy;

   c. Paskov (fnu), professor for contagious diseases;

   d. Shopov (fnu), professor, lectures on tuberculosis; and

   e. A. Chervenkov, professor in surgery.

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